

CAMPAIGN FINANCE DIVISION

☒ **WAIVER REQUEST**
☐ **RECONSIDERATION REQUEST**

DATE: 3/17/2021
DOCKET #:

FILER INFORMATION

Name: Ronald F. "Ron" Ware
Office: Judge, Court of Appeal, 3rd Circuit, 2nd Dist., Elec. Sec. 1C
Parish: CALCASIEU, JEFFERSON DAVIS
Election Date: 11/3/2020
Level of Office: Major

REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: 90-P
Original Due Date: 8/5/2020
Date Filed: 8/10/2020
Activity Receipts: \$21,850.00
Expenditures: \$19,442.89
Funds at Close of Reporting Period: \$8,876.61

LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$500
Days Late: 5
Late Fee Order Received: 10/06/2020
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 10/26/2020
Waiver Request Received: 10/20/2020
Additional Information Requested:

- Medical
- Financial
- Other

COMMENTS: Donna D. Williams, CPA, report preparer for Ronald Ware request a waiver and states the following: As preparer for the candidate's reports, she was under the assumption that the Schedule of Reporting and Filing Dates for this candidate were for a "district office," not a "major office." As soon as she was made aware that the candidate was considered running for a "major office" the 180-P and 90-P reports were immediately filed on August 10, 2020. She respectfully requests a waiver or reduction of the late fee assessments for the candidate. They have a history of timely filing all campaign finance reports. There was no willful intent to disregard the rules and regulations of the Louisiana Board of Ethics. Your consideration and leniency in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

Campaign Finance:

Other Outstanding Reports: No
Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
Prior Late Fees: No
Reassessed Late Fees: No

Disclosure Statements:

Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
Prior Late Fees: No



Donna D. Williams, CPA, LLC
Tax Compliance - Accounting - Campaign Finance

540 W. McNeese Street | Lake Charles, LA 70605
P.O. Box 5062 | Lake Charles, LA 70606
Phone: 337.656.3665 | Fax: 337.477.7927
Email: donna@ddwcpala.com

October 12, 2020

Louisiana Board of Ethics
P.O. Box 4368
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

RE: Ronald F. "Ron" Ware
Candidate #: CAN991491
Late Fee Assessment for 180-P and 90-P Reports

Dear Sir or Madam:

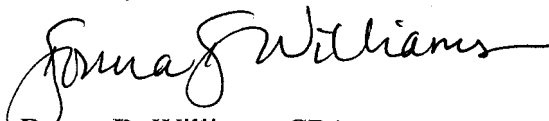
This letter is in reference to the late filing assessments for the 10-P and 30-P reports filed on August 10, 2020.

As preparer for the candidate's reports, I was under the assumption that the Schedule of Reporting and Filing Dates for this candidate were for a "district office" not a "major office".

As soon as I was made aware that the candidate was considered running for a "major office" the 180-P and 90-P reports were immediately filed on August 10, 2020.

I respectfully request the waiver or reduction of the late fee assessments for the candidate. We have a history of timely filing all campaign finance reports. There was no willful intent to disregard the rules and regulations of the Louisiana Board of Ethics. Your consideration and leniency in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Donna D. Williams, CPA

cc: Judge Ronald Ware





STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
P. O. BOX 4368
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821
(225) 219-5600
FAX: (225) 381-7271
1-800-842-6630
www.ethics.la.gov

September 28, 2020

Ronald F. "Ron" Ware
647 Stella Dr.
Lake Charles, LA 70611

CERTIFIED MAIL

NO. 70200640000107319505

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE: Late fee assessment for the November 3, 2020 Election
180-P Campaign Finance Disclosure Report filed 76 days late

Dear Ronald F. "Ron" Ware:

Enclosed is an assessment of a late fee pursuant to La R.S. 18:1505.4 and La. R.S. 18:1511.4.1. Please submit a check or money order in the amount of **\$2,500** payable to the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana to P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. **Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.**

You have 20 days from receipt of this letter to dispute this assessment. You may elect to do either or both of the following:

1. You may submit your request for a waiver to the attention of the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

Waivers are handled by the Ethics Board. The Board of Ethics may reduce, suspend, or decline to waive a late fee assessment based on the cause shown by the person, candidate, or political committee. If you submit a request for a waiver of the late fee to the Board of Ethics, your request should contain details as to why, in your opinion, you have good cause why your report was not timely filed. Also, if you would like to appear before the Board of Ethics in connection with your request, you should state that in your letter. The request should be submitted to the attention of the Board of Ethics at the following address: P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

2. You may appeal **the assessment** directly to the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).

Appeals to the EAB are proceedings before a three judge panel. The determination is made regarding whether the person, candidate, or political committee was required to file the report and whether the report was filed late. **Mitigating factors are not considered during an EAB proceeding. The EAB does not have the authority to reduce, suspend, or waive a late fee assessment.** If you choose to appeal the assessment to the EAB, you should submit your request for an appeal to the attention of the Executive Secretary of the Louisiana Board of Ethics at P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

If you timely submit a waiver request or appeal, your name will not be posted on the website pending the result of your appeal. Furthermore, if you request an appearance, you will be notified of the place and time prior to the meeting.

If you do not **pay** or **dispute** the assessment of the late fee within 20 days from the receipt of this letter, the matter will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office to pursue collection. If the matter is forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection, you may be responsible for all additional costs incurred. Additionally, late fees not paid by the due date will be posted on the agency website.

You should be aware that unpaid campaign finance fines, fees or penalties may have an adverse effect on your ability to run for public office in the future, as the Board of Ethics will object to your future qualifications for candidacy for public office pursuant to La. R.S. 18:491 and R.S. 18:492.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Melissa Horn

STATE OF LOUISIANA LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
acting in its capacity as the
SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE

In Re: Ronald F. "Ron" Ware
November 3, 2020 Election

LATE FEE ASSESSMENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Ronald F. "Ron" Ware, in his capacity as a candidate for Judge, Court of Appeal, 3rd Circuit, 2nd Dist., Elec. Sec. 1C in the November 3, 2020 election was required to file campaign finance reports pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1484.

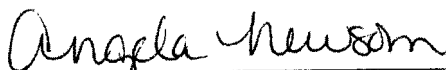
WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.1 provides that it is a violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act to fail to timely file campaign finance reports.

WHEREAS, in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1495.4B(1), Ronald F. "Ron" Ware was required to file a 180th Day Prior to Primary Report (180-P) by May 26, 2020. Ronald F. "Ron" Ware filed the report on August 10, 2020 and was 76 days late.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(2)(a)(i) provides that an automatic late fee of \$100 per day (not to exceed \$2,500) be assessed against Ronald F. "Ron" Ware for this late filing.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that a late fee of \$2,500 is assessed against Ronald F. "Ron" Ware for failure to timely file his campaign finance disclosure report.

ORDER signed on the 28th day of September 2020 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



Angela Newsom, Director
Campaign Finance & Lobbying Division



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
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September 28, 2020

Ronald F. "Ron" Ware
647 Stella Dr.
Lake Charles, LA 70611

CERTIFIED MAIL

NO. 70200640000107319505

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE: Late fee assessment for the November 3, 2020 Election
90-P Campaign Finance Disclosure Report filed 5 days late

Dear Ronald F. "Ron" Ware:

Enclosed is an assessment of a late fee pursuant to La R.S. 18:1505.4 and La. R.S. 18:1511.4.1. Please submit a check or money order in the amount of **\$500** payable to the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana to P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. **Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.**

You have 20 days from receipt of this letter to dispute this assessment. You may elect to do either or both of the following:

1. You may submit your request for a waiver to the attention of the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

Waivers are handled by the Ethics Board. The Board of Ethics may reduce, suspend, or decline to waive a late fee assessment based on the cause shown by the person, candidate, or political committee. If you submit a request for a waiver of the late fee to the Board of Ethics, your request should contain details as to why, in your opinion, you have good cause why your report was not timely filed. Also, if you would like to appear before the Board of Ethics in connection with your request, you should state that in your letter. The request should be submitted to the attention of the Board of Ethics at the following address: P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

2. You may appeal the assessment directly to the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).

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Melissa Horn

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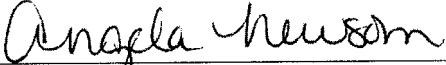
WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.1 provides that it is a violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act to fail to timely file campaign finance reports.

WHEREAS, in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1495.4B(2), Ronald F. "Ron" Ware was required to file a 90th Day Prior to Primary Report (90-P) by August 5, 2020. Ronald F. "Ron" Ware filed the report on August 10, 2020 and was 5 days late.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(2)(a)(i) provides that an automatic late fee of \$100 per day (not to exceed \$2,500) be assessed against Ronald F. "Ron" Ware for this late filing.

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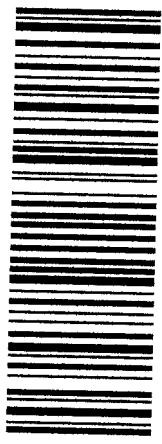
ORDER signed on the 28th day of September 2020 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



Angela Newsom, Director
Campaign Finance & Lobbying Division

Williams
CERTIFIED
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
Tax Compliance - Accounting - Payroll - Campaign Finance
P.O. Box 5062 • Lake Charles, LA 70606

PLACE STICKER AT TOP OF ENVELOPE TO THE RIGHT
OF THE RETURN ADDRESS. FOLD AT DOTTED LINE
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7019 1120 0001 6147 0725



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70821

Louisiana Board of Ethics
P.O. Box 4368
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

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The CPA, Never underestimate the value

